

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The specification has been amended to overcome the objection thereto. Similarly, the objection to claim 23 is overcome, as this claim has been amended to correct the objection thereto.

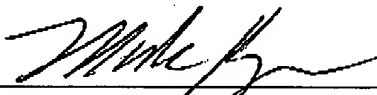
Claim 11 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 20 and intervening claim 18, indicated to include allowable subject matter. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that pending claims 11, 16 – 17 and 21 – 24 are patentable.

In view of these remarks, the application is now in condition for allowance and the Examiner's prompt action in accordance therewith is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

10/10/06



Mark J. Rozman
Registration No. 42,117
TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C.
1616 S. Voss Road, Suite 750
Houston, Texas 77057-2631
(512) 418-9944 [Phone]
(713) 468-8883 [Fax]
Customer No.: 21906